GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:523
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
CONFERENCE ON FLIGHT SAFETY
GADDAM GANGA REDDY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual flight safety conference of Indian Air Force was held at Bangalore on June 26, 2001;

(b) whether the issue of frequent air crashes of I.A.F. aircrafts, particularly of MIG variety was discussed in the conference;

(c) whether training of pilots and proper maintenance of aircraft were emphasised and steps suggested to improve these aspects; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 523 FOR 29.8.2001

A Flight-Safety conference, of the Training Command of the Indian Air Force, was held in Bangalore on June 25, 2001.Such Flight-Safety conferences are held on a six monthly basis, in each of IAF`s seven Commands.Flight safety issues are also discussed in the Commanders` Conference at the Air Headquarters, which takes place twice annually.

2. Matters relating to accidents, involving different types of aircraft, including MIGs, with specific focus on accidents pertaining to the aircraft deployed by the Training Command were discussed in the conference at Bangalore.The fundamentals of flight safety, including training of pilots and aircrew and a fail-safe system of maintenance of aircraft were reviewed. Particular stress was laid on ensuring, on a sustained basis, that no compromises in regard to flight safety were allowed at any level. Accident rates of different aircraft were also reviewed, and preventive measures relating to the three major causes of such accidents - human error (by aircrew or technical personnel), technical defects and bird menace around airfields - were analysed with a view to effecting further improvements.